



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 28.7 Thursday, February 17, 2022

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

VBT board honors retiring Director Greg Laurain

The following resolution was passed by the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at its Feb. 15 meeting, on the occasion of the retirement of Public Safety Director Gregory Laurain after 40 years of service.

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain began his law enforcement career with Van Buren Police Department as a Reserve Police Officer in 1980; and became a Patrolman in 1981, among the original class of full-time Police Officers in the Van Buren Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain was promoted to Detective Sergeant in 1986, where he served supervising personnel and investigating cases generated by Road Patrol Officers; and

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain is a graduate of Northwestern University's Police Staff and Command School in 2005 and was chosen to attend (and graduated from) the FBI National Academy – a distinct honor that only select law enforcement officials experience; and

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain was promoted to Patrol Captain in 2006, where he was responsible for all administration support of the Police Department,

including the management and supervision of the Department's personnel from the Detective Bureau, Special Investigative Unit, Records Section, Dispatch, K-9 Unit, Marine Unit and Dive Team; and

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain has enjoyed a well-rounded career serving in numerous capacities with gradually progressive responsibilities within the Department, such as a Police Reserve, Patrolman, Detective Sergeant and Captain over the course of his 40 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain went on to lead the entire Department, being appointed as Public Safety Director in 2013 and has honorably and faithfully served in that position since; and

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain has served in numerous leadership roles within law enforcement agencies and bureaus including the Western Wayne County Special Operations Team (SWAT), serving 10 years as its SWAT Team Commander, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Airport Interdiction Team, and the Michigan State Police Narcotic Interdiction Team; and

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain is the President of the FBINAA Michigan Chapter and the past President of the

Wayne County Chiefs of Police Association and serves as an active member of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Southeastern Michigan Chiefs of Police, and the Wayne County Chiefs of Police.

WHEREAS, Gregory Laurain has a reputation for a strong work ethic, integrity, honor and an uncompromising devotion to the Van Buren Township Public Safety Department; and

WHEREAS, Through the leadership of Gregory Laurain as Director, Van Buren Police Department became an elite law enforcement agency, earning accreditation in 2022 through the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, becoming one of only 42 of Michigan's 583 law enforcement agencies to have achieved accreditation to date.

RESOLVED, The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees recognizes Gregory Laurain's 40 years of exceptional service, distinguished career, and commitment to public safety in protection and service to the residents, families, and businesses of Van Buren Township as a leader of the Police and Public Safety Department.

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Trustees hereby recognizes and commends



Public Safety Director
Gregory Laurain

Gregory Laurain who has dedicated himself to the highest standard of professionalism in his four decades of exemplary service to Van Buren Township and congratulates him on his retirement and wish him and his family all the best in the future.

Passed and approved by the Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan this the 15th day of February, 2022.

VBT Police Department earns prestigious MACP accreditation

The Charter Township of Van Buren Police Department is proud to announce it is among 42 agencies accredited by the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP) through its Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, the only local legitimate authority and accreditation agency in the State of Michigan.

Currently there are 583 law enforcement agencies in the State of Michigan and the accreditation places the VBT Police Department in the top tier of law enforcement agencies.

The accreditation was attained after a three-year-long process that was initiated

by retiring Public Safety Director Greg Laurain. He, Police Chief Jason Wright, and Accreditation Managers Sergeant Louis Keele and Officer Adam Byrd formed the team's core.

The Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police unanimously voted "yes" to approve accredited status for the VBT Police and formally recognized the department during a recent conference and ceremony at Amway Plaza in Grand Rapids.

"The citizens of Van Buren Township deserve a police agency that adopted established policies that model current standards of excellence and developed

effective procedures within the police department," said Director Laurain.

"This accreditation places a stamp of approval by the highly respected Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police that our department is a proactive, industry leader in law enforcement."

The accreditation was engaged under the direction and leadership of Sergeant Louis Keele and assisted by Union President and Police and Communications Recruiter Adam Byrd. Both served as Accreditation Managers and were charged with coordinating the department's compliance with the 108 standards and 400+ tasks it was required to meet to achieve accreditation status.

"At a time right now where you have law enforcement reform being hotly discussed, we are proud to be in the top 42 agencies within the State of Michigan that proactively took on the challenge and succeeded in

getting accredited," said Sgt. Keele.

"The process and expectations set forth by the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police were tremendously challenging," said Officer Byrd. "By modifying our policies, it provides us a pathway to further success when it comes to criminal investigations, liability, and the ability to succeed with grants that require our organization to have an accredited status."

There were several steps involved in earning the prestigious accreditation. Sgt. Keele requested an assessment from the MACP once all the necessary policies were modified to adapt to the MACP mandates. As part of the assessment review, the assessors took a tour of the station, interviewed personnel, and rode with officers to visually ensure that the VBT Police Department's personnel was in absolute compliance with the standards mandated by MACP Accreditation Protocols.

*Postal Regulations Require
This Space On The Front Page.*



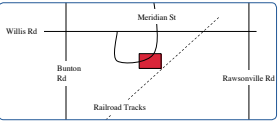
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Sumpter asks county for \$6.5 million for bike/pedestrian trails

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Sumpter Township Board of Trustees voted 5-1 at its Feb. 8 meeting to apply to Wayne County for \$6.5 million in grant funding for two bike/pedestrian trails for the township paid for through federal American Rescue Plan funds.

Trustee Peggy Morgan voted no.

In the board packet was an Oct. 7, 2022 memo from Hennessey Engineers stating it had performed a cursory field investigation on the 13.5 miles of the two corridors and estimated a cost of \$6.5 million. The path pavement cross section is three inches of asphalt over an aggregate base. It is proposed to be ten feet wide with a two-foot clearance zone on each side.

One path would start in the City of Belleville and go south on Sumpter Road to Arkona Road, where it would turn east and extend into Crosswinds Marsh. The other path would be along Bemis Road from the Lower Huron Metropark on the east to Rawsonville Road on the west.

“The pedestrian path focuses on connectivity with adjacent communities and regional recreational areas,” John Hennessey wrote in his memo.

The idea for the pedestrian/bike path

came from Trustee Don LaPorte, who said he presented it to the county and the county loved the idea. He said the county would build the path with the ARPA funds and the township would have to pay \$150,000 as its share. The township also would have to maintain the path.

“We could back out at any time,” Trustee LaPorte said, adding he thinks it would be built in the county right of way, but the details are still to be determined.

Resident Corey Blue said he lived in a Missouri town where they built a path using eminent domain and the people were not happy.

“You’d better figure out the details,” Blue said. “A lot of people were irritated.”

“If there are issues, we could back out,” said Trustee/Deputy Supervisor Tim Rush, who was chairing the meeting in the absence of Supervisor Tim Bowman.

Blue said the path became a crime issue and the police had to patrol it.

“It’s conceptual,” Trustee LaPorte said. “The county wants us to approve the idea.”

Township attorney Rob Young said the resolution on the paths doesn’t commit the township to one thing. “It could be a great program or a terrible problem. No one knows for sure.”

In other business, the board:

- Unanimously approved posting, publishing, and hiring an employee for payroll/accounts payable, election specialist and clerk’s office assistant duties as of Jan. 26 at the current AFSCME rate of pay;
- Unanimously approved renewing the contract with Huron Township for dispatch and lockup services for five years, through June 30, 2027, with an increase of 2.5% per year, beginning May 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at a cost of \$196,070 that year;
- Unanimously approved participation in the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services for Wayne County residents. This program provides assistance to households that are currently in arrears or facing disconnection of water services through Sept. 30, 2023;
- Unanimously approved leasing a replacement Copier/Hub from Toshiba for the monthly base lease price of \$155.48 for a 63-month term lease;
- Unanimously approved setting up a hiring committee to review applications for a township administrator and recommend someone to the township board of trustees.

On the committee are Supervisor Tim Bowman, Clerk Esther Hurst, Treasurer Vincent Warren, Director of Public Safety/Police Chief Eric Luke, and Trustee/Deputy Supervisor Rush as backup;

- Approved the attorney’s report, which included approval for Deputy Rush to sign a letter, in the absence of Supervisor Bowman, on Wayne County parks grants and to resubmit a 2019 resolution. Young said Sharon Pokerwinski would hand-carry it to the county the next day;
- Heard Fire Chief Rick Brown announce the department had 93 runs in January, four of which were fires. He also said there were 47 people at a four-day training session on active shooters held at the fire hall. The teachers were from Louisiana State University. Chief Brown said the training was about, “What could happen in the future”; and
- Heard resident Mary Ban ask if there had been any progress on the opening of the Belleville Area Museum, since Supervisor Bowman had said there was going to be a meeting with him, Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara, and Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley. Trustee/Deputy Rush said the meeting was

(continued on page 14)

Sumpter Township 2021 Employee Wages & Cost to Township									
	Wages	Total Compensation							
ELECTED OFFICIALS									
Bowman, Timothy	\$29,140.14	\$29,140.14	Jackson, Joseph	\$3,960.47	\$3,960.47	Hudson, Sean	\$86,250.24	\$90,244.88	
Hurst, Esther	\$23,664.82	\$23,664.82	Jeffries, Ronald	\$10.24	\$10.24	Luke, Eric	\$124,664.75	\$142,279.91	
Warren, Vincent	\$14,524.78	\$14,524.78	Krushlin, Jamie	\$4,968.11	\$4,968.11	Paquette, Malissa	\$74,219.37	\$74,219.37	
Laporte, Donald	\$10,277.52	\$10,277.52	Krushlin, John	\$15,243.12	\$15,243.12	Rodriguez, Jesiah	\$76,744.72	\$80,739.36	
Morgan, Peggy	\$14,157.00	\$14,157.00	Landskroener, Richard	\$6,583.71	\$6,583.71	Salajan, George	\$81,410.10	\$85,321.24	
Oddy, Matthew	\$14,157.00	\$14,157.00	Laporte, Donald	\$5,931.37	\$5,931.37	Steffani, Brian	\$99,532.50	\$113,704.12	
Rush, Timothy	\$14,157.00	\$14,157.00	Long, Eric	\$4,790.40	\$4,790.40	Toney, Kenneth	\$87,995.89	\$87,995.89	
BUILDING DEPT.			Lunsford, Curtis	\$161.67	\$161.67	Toth, John	\$103,816.48	\$103,816.48	
Hall, Acheenia	\$16,171.61	\$16,171.61	McCall, Shauna	\$1,546.42	\$1,546.42	SUPERVISOR'S DEPT.			
Wheelock, Bradley	\$41,699.95	\$45,477.49	McHenry, Michael	\$18,309.23	\$18,309.23	Rush, Timothy	\$323.31	\$323.31	
CLERK'S DEPT.			Myers, Kenneth	\$3,098.84	\$3,098.84	Woodington, Karen	\$54,756.25	\$74,418.83	
Burdick, Anthony	\$68,401.15	\$78,481.27	Scott, Rachel	\$8,376.23	\$8,376.23	TREASURER DEPT.			
Hadyniak, Dawn	\$53,523.01	\$67,163.57	Sliwa, Richard	\$13,802.55	\$13,802.55	Campbell, Erica	\$41,536.08	\$41,536.08	
COMMUNITY CENTER			Smith, Taylor	\$153.60	\$153.60	Harris, Ashley	\$7,876.02	\$7,876.02	
Thompson, Roderick	\$5,218.63	\$5,218.63	Thompson, Walter	\$9,783.59	\$9,783.59	WATER DEPT.			
Watson, Maryann	\$56,838.09	\$74,249.51	Wisniewski I, Michael	\$732.78	\$732.78	Danci, John	\$17,480.76	\$17,480.76	
TREASURER DEPT.			Wisniewski, Michael	\$17,169.82	\$17,169.82	Krushlin, John	\$87,120.87	\$87,120.87	
Bardell, Roxanne	\$61,950.64	\$81,242.48	Zweng, Christopher	\$5,185.33	\$5,185.33	Linville, John	\$65,212.30	\$70,726.64	
Oconnell, Michelle Cole	\$91,195.67	\$101,067.41	ORDINANCE DEPT.			Lynch, Randy	\$69,740.35	\$85,792.39	
FIRE DEPT.			Gregory, Peter	\$65,950.40	\$65,950.40	Petrowski, Michael	\$69,257.73	\$88,008.49	
Armstrong, Timothy	\$4,790.98	\$4,790.98	Scott, Kevin	\$30,946.84	\$30,946.84	Winter, Anna	\$51,339.30	\$60,551.02	
Beaumont, James	\$5,720.00	\$5,720.00	POLICE DEPT.			2021 TOTAL \$3,076,006.67			
Behrendt, David	\$4,951.41	\$4,951.41	Balowski, Joseph	\$95,140.83	\$105,073.83	2020 TOTAL \$3,687,545.14			
Blackburn, Brian	\$8,204.85	\$8,204.85	Benedict, Jeffrey	\$25,069.82	\$25,069.82	Difference -\$611,538.47			
Brown, Richard	\$40,769.98	\$40,769.98	Cayce, James	\$86,468.94	\$92,945.20	2021 employee total wages & cost to township had approximately a 16.6% decrease since 2020.			
Combs, Benjamin	\$11,039.54	\$11,039.54	Criscenti, Gino	\$36,893.92	\$36,893.92				
Goode, Jamie	\$3,287.04	\$3,287.04	Dervishi, Patrick	\$4,769.06	\$4,769.06				
Ingle, Sonya	\$1,407.28	\$1,407.28	Devos, Barton	\$76,168.12	\$80,319.74				
			Dufresne, Susan	\$57,284.36	\$77,905.52				
			Egerer, Elizabeth	\$82,502.73	\$98,237.47	Benefits include FICA and may include health care, dental, life insurance and pension. Fire Fighters receive no benefits.			
			Gannon, Patrick	\$111,646.57	\$136,576.33				
			Gottschalk, Colleen	\$55,605.01	\$66,733.89				
			Herrick, Christopher	\$80,034.91	\$96,113.67				
			Hogan, Joseph	\$49,418.01	\$57,186.53				
								Compiled by Diane Madigan.	

OPINIONS

Editorial

Sumpter Road sited for changes from two townships

On Feb. 8, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees voted to ask Wayne County to consider its request for some 13.5 miles of bike/pedestrian paths using about \$6.5 million in federal grants. One path would run from the City of Belleville, south on Sumpter Road, to Arkona Road when it would head east into Crosswinds Marsh. The other path would run along Bemis Road from Lower Huron Metropark on the east to Rawsonville Road on the west.

On Feb. 9, the Van Buren Township Planning Commission unanimously passed a recommendation to the township board to distribute to neighboring communities and others the proposed Sumpter Road Corridor Plan. This is an amendment to the township Southside Master Plan and neighbors have 42 days to comment on the plan. This plan also includes bike/pedestrian trails along Sumpter Road, as well as extensions north for Bak and/or Roulo roads.

Whatever may happen to the two plans, it's a sure thing something is going to be transforming Sumpter Road. It's only two lanes wide, and that might change since the county has been requiring wider rights of way from those buying property on the road. We don't know when any widening might happen, but if the two subdivisions proposed by VBT for south of Hull Road come to fruition, wider roads might be a necessity. Keep an eye on these changes and share your ideas with officials.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

A reader who doesn't want her name used sent the following account: "I want to tell you of a scam that happened to us. Over the weekend we got a call from Great Lakes Bank in the Chicago area. Someone was cashing a check and it was deposited in a mobile account. The bank cashed it and I didn't know about it until I opened my account and saw that the money was gone and checks had bounced. They forged a check and my signature. How they got a similar but not quite the same check as mine and a check number that hadn't even been used yet, I don't know.

"When checking with the Great Lakes Bank on Monday, they didn't have a record of the money even going into this man's account. So, was there a third party with the cell phone that scammed us both? The bank didn't even seem too concerned and said that I would have to report it to the local and Chicago authorities. Each one commented that it was over state lines and they didn't seem like they would pursue it. Luckily, my bank cleared my account and all charges."

Another story about the scams that are surrounding us these days.

The house that had burned on Willis Road last summer has finally been demolished. Sumpter Township Ordinance Department had told us it was just waiting for disconnects from DTE before the burned hulk could be taken down. It's down.

At the Homegrown Knowledge program put on by the Friends of the Library on Feb. 10, J. Ross Baughman gave a fascinating presentation on rare books and history and urged everyone to become "Soldiers of

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



History" to tell the stories of their families with real evidence.

Ross is a Van Buren Township resident and a Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist. He is an author as well and has written five historical volumes and is working on the sixth. He invited the public to read his books without charge by going to www.danielhaston.com, clicking on Resources and then Books.

He also wrote of his adventures in photojournalism in his lengthy memoirs.

I was late for his Feb. 10 presentation at the library because I had been to Sumpter's first in-person planning commission meeting in about a year and a half. That meeting was less than a half-hour long so I hurried to the library to enjoy as much as I could of Ross' talk.

When I got there, one of the ladies in the audience handed me a very heavy, leather-bound Bible to inspect and pass on to those at the next table. It was printed on paper made from linen rags in 1545 and was in German. No need for gloves because linen is more resilient than pages made from wood pulp and doesn't crumble.

Ross had other very old books for us to touch and inspect. And he had stories and more stories. Several of the old books are on display in a glass case at the library on the path to the children's area.

"You are the historian that you've been hoping to find," Ross said. "You probably won't find the book on your ancestors that

has already been written. Chances are more likely that you'll have to write it yourself. Don't be shy or self-doubting about this challenge."

Ross considers himself a "contrarian" much like his ancestor Rudolf Bachmann who was imprisoned and killed for being an Anabaptist dissenter. Ross went to the prison in Europe where his ancestor died in chains. He has traveled many places to find the true story of his family. It was a great presentation.

Last week when we were delivering papers on Main Street we saw a truck and some workmen next to the new stores constructed in Scott Jones' development. They were putting up a permanent sign. Later in the day, I drove by and the sign was up and it read: "Smoker's Zone." A temporary sign read: "Coming Soon." It's right next to Ivy Rehab, the first business to open in that shopping center. This may be the second one.

There are six "suicidal person" calls listed on this week's dispatch log for Van Buren Township Police and they are in different part of the township. There are two "suicidal person" calls listed in this week's log in the City of Belleville. Let's be kind to each other.





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BELLEVILLE-AREA INDEPENDENT

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Letters

Things to consider about Sumpter bike path

To the editor:

During the last Sumpter Township Board meeting, Trustee LaPorte introduced a resolution to discuss placing a new bike path throughout Sumpter Township. The idea on paper is nice but what we must be careful of is the unintended consequences for such a plan. My hometown had a similar plan that resulted in negative outcomes.

The bike path from my hometown resulted in eminent domain being used to secure the property to place a bike path. Through the democratic process where the majority can vote to take the individual's livelihood, the property was secured at the behest of the majority.

Many people lost their property for a bike path that only a minority wanted. The aftermath of the newly created bike path was the cost of upkeep, the misappropriation of city funds, and increased crime on the path now running through people's backyards (front yards in our case).

I'm not here to state only the negative outcomes but to be a realist for the outcomes of such a plan. I personally mountain bike and jog, so I would enjoy a bike path just as much as the next person. However, there is a very nice bike path located at Metro Parks that I frequent which is very close to Sumpter. Moreover, I noticed there are lot of folks that walk down Sumpter Road so I see that it could be extremely helpful for some individuals.

The current plan for the path is to start at Belleville and run the bike path parallel to Sumpter Road down near the police station. The second path would connect Rawsonville Road to Haggerty parallel and next to Bemis Road all the way to Metro Park.

I think it is important to keep in mind that planners always make mistakes. Anyone that thinks mistakes are never made are neophytes to the reality of government and central planners. The funds for this are using federal grants from the Federal Reserve Monetary System that is already broke. Currently the national debt is at insane numbers that the human mind can't fathom and we're taking money from them for this project. I can't help but think about what we are doing to the value of our currency and the debt load we are strapping our children with as we discuss such a project.

Personally, I would like to see that money used to bring down the national debt and decrease the current levels of inflation that we are experiencing, however I understand that the federal government is not known for its ability to curtail its spending.

I also think it is important to mention that Sumpter Township will have to maintain and upkeep the path after it is constructed which comes with financial obligations.

Currently we are experiencing inflation and the township's property tax assessor

also knows this detail. During the last meeting on February the 8th he detailed how inflation is going to increase our property taxes approximately 3.3%. The reality of our situation is we are experiencing inflation in our daily cost of living (gas, food, etc.) and to make matters worse now our property taxes, while our wages are not keeping up with inflation.

Inflation is the unseen tax levied on the people. Unfortunately, this grant could not be used to drive the township's financial burden lower to keep our property taxes consistent or reduced. I think it is important for our leaders to find ways to reduce property taxes or outright abolish them for some individuals as some counties throughout the U.S. have done (don't believe me, Google it). Most people live on a fixed income where the increases of the cost of living is an abhorrent burden and taxation at the end of the day is legalized theft.

In conclusion, I think there are some benefits to this bike path however the people can't walk into this without understanding that there are risks associated with such a plan. Thankfully Trustee LaPorte said there is an email address that people can forward their personal questions to: sumpterbikepath@sumptertwp.org.

Corey Blue
Sumpter Township

Open letter to Tom Fielder on fighting drugs

An open letter to Tom Fielder, former Belleville City Councilman, Mayor, and Belleville High School teacher:

First, please know we residents of not only the City of Belleville, but I believe the residents of the entire tri-community want to thank you in appreciation for your many years of service to our communities. I know of no one living who is more aware of our tri-community's needs and is still actively involved.

And now, currently, I note that you are a part of a drug-fighting group in Detroit, and at a recent meeting, you learned that the deadly, addictive drug FENTANYL has been found in marijuana -- and subsequent death!

How vividly I recall our own City Council NOT taking a vote on growing and selling marijuana in Belleville. But instead, the City Council kicked the can down the road and voted to let the voters decide the issue. I was, and still am, very disgusted re: the Council's cowardly NON-action! Assuming the Council's vote was in favor of anticipated city revenue, we residents will now suffer the consequences (FENTANYL)?

Mr. Fielder, our tri-community needs you and your services and I would like to know if you can/will head-up a drug-fighting group here locally. Undoubtedly, you will find many residents willing and able to join the battle, with you leading the way. GOD BLESS AMERICA (Mrs.) Ruth E. Bleeker
City of Belleville

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Obituaries

DELBERT EYLER

Delbert Eyer, age 73, of Knoxville formerly of Michigan, passed away on February 12, 2022, at his home. He was a member of Christus Victor Lutheran Church and a U.S. Veteran. He was preceded in death by wife, Christine Eyer; parents, John Albert Eyer and Cressy Duncan Eyer; and brother-in-law, Doug Williams. He is survived by son William J. Eyer (Mary); daughter, Shannon Ondracka (Bill); grandchildren, Jessica Oetting (Joel), Austin Ondracka, Alyssa Eyer, and Brooke Eyer Wiseman; great-grandchildren, Clara Oetting, Everly Wiseman, and Alivia Wiseman; and sisters, Becky Ausmus (Jack) and Lauretta Williams. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Christus Victor Lutheran Church (4110 Central Ave. Knoxville, TN 37912). Online obituary may be viewed and condolences extended at www.rosefuneraltn.com.

COVID-19 deaths in 48111 at 114, positive tests at 8,701

The number of people who have died from COVID-19 in the 48111 zip code crept up from 111 last week to 114 as of Monday, Feb. 14, according to figures from the Wayne County Health Department.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 totaled 8,701 on Monday, Feb. 14, up from 8,633 on Monday, Feb. 7.

On Monday, Feb. 14, the separate totals released by the Wayne County Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 5,934 positive cases, 78 deaths; City of Belleville, 1,010 positive cases, 11 deaths; and Sumpter Township 1,747 positive cases, 25 deaths.

The Van Buren Public Schools had 2 positive cases on Monday, Feb. 7, and then none for the rest of the week. As of Feb. 11, there have been a total of 520 positive cases since the beginning of the school year.

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Obituaries



Sharon Anne Breazeale

SHARON ANNE BREAZEALE

(July 7, 1947 – February 7, 2022)

Sharon Anne Breazeale, age 74, longtime Belleville resident, passed away late Monday, February 7, 2022, at her home, in her husband's arms, after a courageous battle with Parkinson's disease. She was born July 7, 1947, in Detroit MI, daughter of Philip Monsour & Helen (Anckonie) Hassen. She graduated from Taylor Center high school, class of 1965. She worked for Bell Telephone for several years. She was a very active (former) member of Grace Reformed Church, Allen Park, MI, where she started their Christmas basket ministry, cooked, and ministered. She enjoyed collecting many things and loved plants and flowers. She had over 27 flower beds at her home! She was the founder of Breezy's Doll Emporium. She was a true artist. She created many beautiful dolls and clothes for them. She was honored on the cover of Doll World Magazine too! Sharon loved watching the Tigers play baseball. Most of all, she loved her family, cooking, teaching, and loving time spent together.

Mrs. Breazeale is survived by her husband of nearly 52 years, Robert J. Breazeale; two daughters Gwendolyn (Christopher) Smith of Brownstown, MI, and Theresa Breazeale of Belleville, MI; 6 grandchildren: Nicholas (Kelsey) Smith, Rebecca Breazeale, Caitlyn Smith, Megan (Alec) Loechli, Philip Smith, and Jocelyn Smith; 4 great-grandchildren: Lincoln Smith, Kylee Smith, Yanahliya Loechli, and Finley Loechli; 3 siblings: Jean (Gary) Orsargos of Brownstown, MI, Philip (Jane) Hassen of London, Canada, and Elaine (Craig) Randall of Homer, MI; also numerous nieces and nephews, extended family and friends.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a private service was held. Burial took place in Knollwood Memorial Park, Canton, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family and would be appreciated. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. www.davidcbrownfh.com

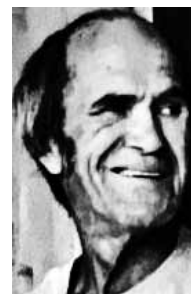
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Melvin Richard Field

MELVIN RICHARD FIELD

(September 23, 1945 – February 4, 2022)

Melvin Richard Field, age 76, of Romulus, MI, passed away Friday, February 4, 2022, at Sinai Grace Hospital, Detroit, MI. He was born September 23, 1945, in Attleboro, Massachusetts, son of William & Mildred (Balance) Field. Melvin graduated from high school, class of 1963. He enjoyed bowling in his younger years and loved watching Alabama football games. He was a home builder by trade, always keeping his hands busy building or remodeling. He also enjoyed working with wood.

Mr. Field is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Marjorie (Hovey) Field; two sons Timothy (Tammy) Desadier of Mississippi and Christopher (Shawn) Desadier of Alabama; daughter Renee (Timothy) Prevost of Romulus, MI; 10 grandchildren, Aimee Field, Xavier Desadier, Alissa Field, Angel Field, Emma Prevost, Levi Prevost, Madison Prevost, Clinton Beliew, Gabe Blair, and Lucas Blair; one great-grandson Colten Schaff; also extended family and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents William & Millie Field.

Visitation was 4-8 PM Friday, and 10-11 AM Saturday, February 12, 2022, with an 11 AM Funeral at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Pastor Gordon Moore officiated. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and would be appreciated.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

ERIK MONTGOMERY HARRIS

(May 4, 1965 – January 23, 2022)

Survived by two sons, Erik, Jr. and Dylan; his mother Velma; his brother Alan; six step-siblings; and two grandchildren. Started Elite Painting and ran it for 28 years. David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

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Paul Douglas Gardner

PAUL DOUGLAS GARDNER

(August 8, 1963 – February 3, 2022)

Born in Ann Arbor, MI and resided in Belleville, MI. Paul was preceded by his father John W. Gardner, and his mother Susan M. Gardner (Arnold). Paul is survived by two daughters Heather Gardner, and Tabitha Gardner (Son-In-Law Omari Lucas), one son Keith Dyer (Daughter-In-Law Kelsyn Fasing), grandchildren Callie Burton, Jayden Gardner, Coralyn Burton, Kensley Fasing, and Landon Dyer, and one Great-Grandchild Michael A. Trembl III.

Obituaries



Barbara Ann Gotts

BARBARA ANN GOTTS

(December 28, 1936 – February 10, 2022)

Barbara Ann Gotts, 85, of Monroe, MI, formerly of Flat Rock, IL, passed away on February 10, 2022. She was born December 28, 1936, in Detroit, MI, the daughter of Emory Everett & Portia Loraine (Ulysses) Taylor. She grew up in Michigan and was a 1954 graduate of Howell High School in Howell, MI. At the age of 19, Barbara got married and started a family. Much of this season of life found her sowing into her six children, and she enjoyed planning fun adventures with them, the memories from which they will cherish for as long as they live. In addition to their mother's love, they were the beneficiaries of this dear woman's cooking. Her kitchen was often filled with the savory aroma of her famous cheese bread, and her fudge was so delectable that it won the blue ribbon at Michigan State Fair!

Anyone who knew Barbara could speak to her God-given intelligence. She put it to use when she decided to further her education at institutions like Jackson College, Eastern Michigan University, Wayne County Community College, Eastern Illinois University, Vincennes University, and Lincoln Trail College. All in all, she ended up with a couple of bachelor's degrees and was mere credits away from a couple more! Her love of education paired well with her passion for reading. When she didn't have a textbook in hand, chances

were that she'd be wholly consumed by an Agatha Christie novel or comparable mysteries. She also enjoyed gardening and was known to plant just about anything that could grow in a flowerbed.

We who are left behind to mourn her passing will never forget her warm, calm demeanor and are grateful for the seeds of love she sowed in our hearts. She is survived by her four sons and two daughters, Fredrick Gotts, Jr., Dale & Dawn Gotts (Romulus, MI), Todd & Sara Gotts (Romulus, MI), and Mark & Norma Gotts (Belleville, MI), Hope & Shannon Cornette (Monroe, MI) and Faith Lietz (Romulus, MI); as well as 15 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, February 18th, at the Ford-Montgomery Cemetery, rural Flat Rock, IL, with Pastor Bob Miner officiating. The Goodwine Funeral Home in Flat Rock is in charge of arrangements. For more information, or to share a memory or condolence online, please visit www.goodwinefuneralhomes.com.

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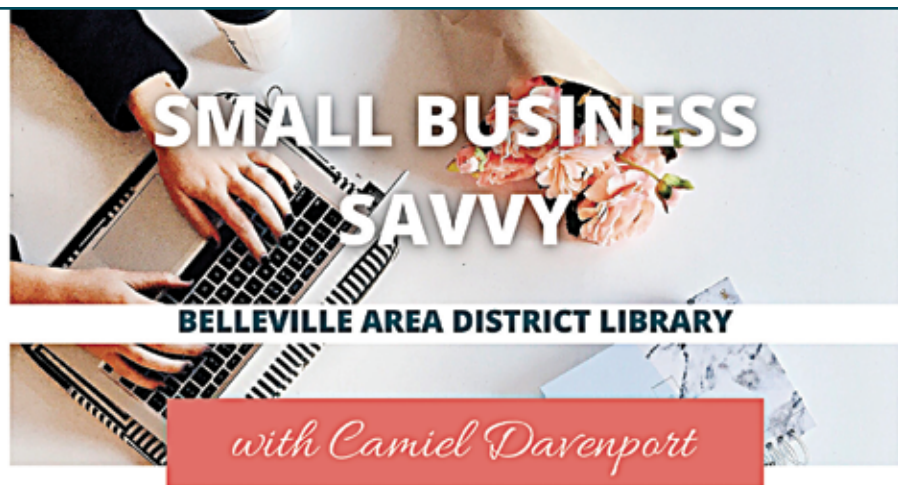
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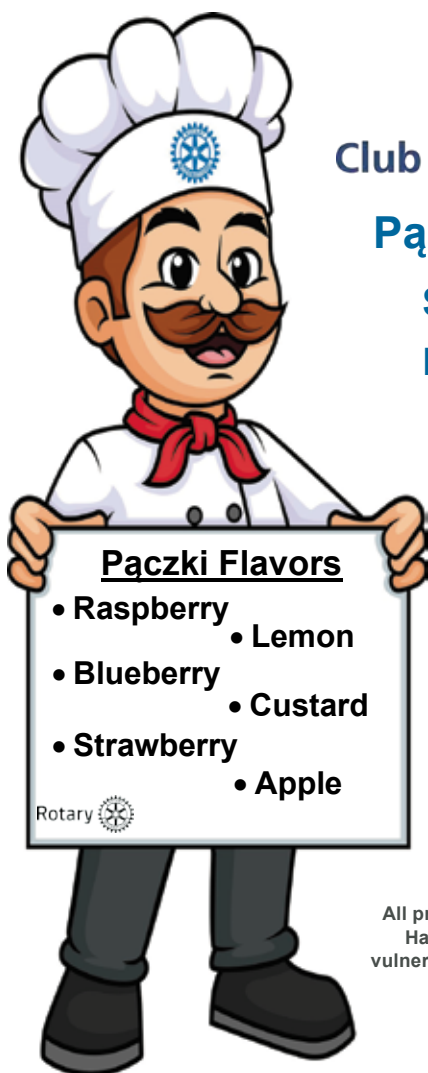
www.belleville.lib.mi.us



Belleville High School football quarterback Bryan Underwood, center, who was named MaxPreps National Freshman Player of the Year, holds the framed proclamation praising him and his team for winning the Division 1 state football championship. Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara read the proclamation by the board and then presented it at the township board's Feb. 1 meeting. Also praised was head football coach Jermain Crowell, at left, and Van Buren Public Schools Superintendent Pete Kudlak, at right. Standing behind the board table are, from left, Trustee Kevin Martin, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Supervisor McNamara, Clerk Leon Wright, and Trustee Donald Boynton.



Independent photo by Bob Mytych. John Blackstone, Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4434, presented a surprise award to the *Belleville-Area Independent* on Feb. 10. The award was accepted by Editor Rosemary K. Oztman. Commander Blackstone said the VFW wanted the *Independent* to know it appreciated all the "consistent wholehearted efforts through which this newspaper has promoted the Citizenship Education of the Veterans of Foreign Wars." He said the VFW was grateful for the paper coming out when requested for various events. On hand for the presentation besides Blackstone were Commander of the Polish League of American Veterans George Kennedy, VFW Quartermaster Vincent Warren, and Adjutant Stanley Pikula.



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Belleville High School bowler Landon Kelly, who was 16th in the state last year, put it all together on Jan. 24 against Westland John Glenn. Landon hit his first perfect 300 game in the first individual game of the match. During the second game Landon rolled nine strikes in a row. He left a nine count in the tenth, ending the second with a high 278 game. Landon is currently leading the state with a 578 series.

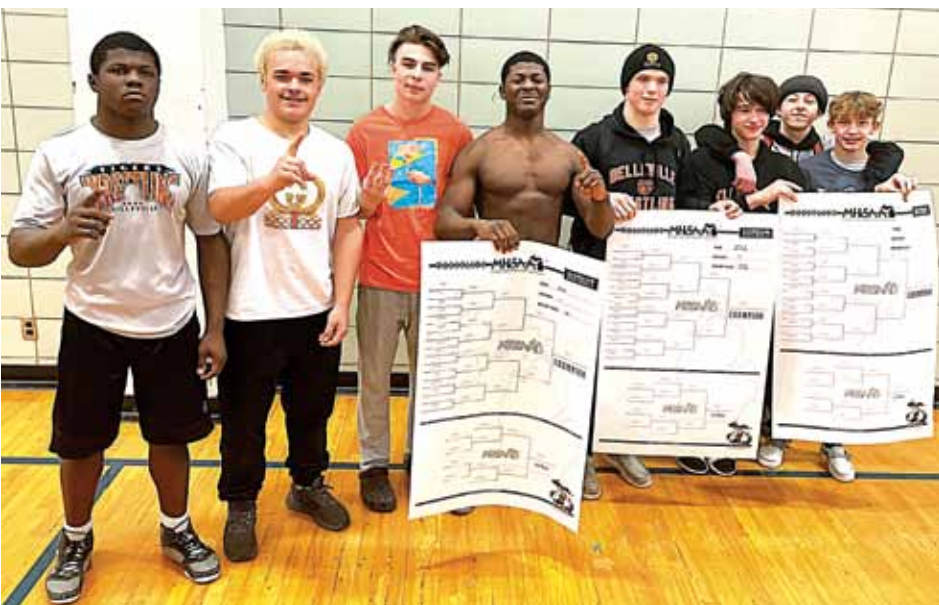


Photo courtesy Belleville High School

These individuals have advanced out of Michigan High School Athletic Association Individual Districts and now move on to Individual Regionals. This guarantees them a Top 32 finish in the State in their weight classes, said Belleville High School Athletic Director Joseph Brodie. He congratulates them and offers them good luck at Regionals. From left are Bernard Harrison (4th), Javen Franklin (3rd), Austin Martin (3rd), Demond Harrison (1st), Connor Williams (1st), Landon Pepper (1st), Jackson Ostowski (4th), and Kasey Settles (4th).

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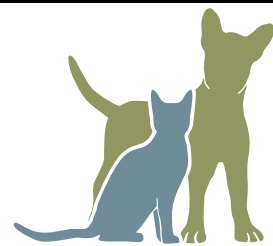
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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK

CANDIE



HI, I'M CANDIE

We would like to introduce **Candie**. She's a beautiful 1-year-old tortie that is as sweet as, well candy! **Candie** is very calm and not into making a fuss. She prefers sunny naps and quiet time. One thing she **LOVES** is pets, more please! She seems fine with the other cats here but would do best with a calmer cat like herself. Older kids only as well. **Candie** is awaiting her fur-ever family patiently so if that's you make an appointment to meet her today. Visit our website friendsofmichigan.org for more information. **Candie** is spayed, vaccinated, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV and micro-chipped.

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Diane Sloan of The Hair Station on Main Street is providing free flat-top-styled haircuts through the month of February with any tips being donated to the Belleville Community Chorus, which

recently launched a fundraising campaign for sponsorships for the upcoming 2022 performance season. Call her at (734) 796-4795 to learn more.

Sue Kotlarek provides mobile small dog grooming with most full-service grooms starting at \$72. See her ad in today's paper and call (734) 941-7290.

March 1 is Paczki Day and the folks at the Bake Shoppe on Savage at Bemis roads is

gearing up with their made-from-scratch, European recipes featuring eight flavors. They'll be available all day on Feb. 28, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on March 1, beginning at 5 a.m. They are \$2 each, \$12 for a half dozen, and \$24 for a full dozen. Orders of five dozen or more should be pre-ordered. See their ad in today's paper and call (734) 699-2236.

Janice Marshall of Remerica Hometown III Realty of Canton will help you buy or sell your home with over 20 years of professional experience. See her ad in today's paper and call (734) 218-3768.

True Wellness Pharmacy on Belleville Road in the Belleville Square Shopping Center will give you a free \$25 gift card to BP Gas & Convenience with any three prescription transfers. Pharmacist Michael Sleiman offers free delivery, too, along with COVID testing and all of the available COVID vaccines. To learn more, see their ad in today's paper and call (734) 391-8549. To learn more about their exceptional customer service, visit www.truewellnessrx.com.

Belleville Rotary is holding a pre-order Paczki fund raiser for a Monday pick up only at the Belleville Area District Library on Feb. 28, from 5 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$15 for a half dozen and payment is due at time of pick up. Cash is preferred, but PayPal is accepted. Orders can be placed at www.BellevilleRotary.org. Flavors available will be raspberry, blueberry, lemon, custard, strawberry, and apple. See their ad in today's paper.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at 734-699-9020.

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VB Schools close to removing mask mandate for students

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Wayne County Health Department is expected to end the mask mandate for students on a county level by the end of the month, leaving school districts to decide their rules for themselves.

A parent was present at Monday’s regular meeting of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education. She identified herself as a graduate of Belleville High School and wanted to know if the mask situation had changed and is ending on a county level.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said that subject was to be a part of his report at the end of the meeting, but he addressed it early to answer the parent’s question.

He said they were informed that the county health department has a new director, who will start on Wednesday, and he will make the decision after he gets settled in, which could be as early as Friday.

Supt. Kudlak said Wayne County is the only county in the state still having the mask mandate for students.

He said the district will be in contact with the new director and because of cases trending down, it is expected the director will rescind the mandate.

“Our numbers are low and they will look at the community,” Kudlak said.

The district recorded two positive cases of COVID on Monday, Feb. 7, and then zero cases the rest of last week.

Kudlak said when the county drops the mandate, the district will drop its mandate and just recommend masks for students.

Kudlak said since this started in March 2020, the district has stated that local school officials are not health experts and they will follow what the experts say.

He said students will be allowed to wear masks if they like. Masks will be required on school buses, he said. There is a federal requirement for masks on all forms of public transportation, Kudlak said. School buses fall into this category. The requirement sunsets on March 18 and they may or may not extend it until the federal government changes its rules, he said.

He said staff members who show their proofs of vaccination are not required to wear masks. If they do not show proof of vaccination, they are required to wear masks. He said the district is not requiring vaccinations.

Also at Monday’s 45-minute meeting, the school board:

- Heard Financial Director Sara Cortese

announce that the district received funds on Feb. 10 from the most recent bond sale and the total amount available for capital improvements is \$88,000 higher than budgeted for. And, the debt service came in \$6.6 million less than expected. “These are fantastic numbers for us,” she said;

- Approved the \$8,156,563 Owen Intermediate School upgrade project and Granger Construction’s costs from the 2019 Bond Program to begin April 4 and be done in steps for groups of the rooms and be done by the end of December;

- Approved the contract award of \$878,415.17 along with a project contingency of \$41,584.83 for a total cost of \$920,000 for upgrades to the high school football field, along with the track and tennis courts. It is expected to begin as soon as athletics is over this spring and be complete by Aug. 15. Ten years ago, when the new high school was built, the district saved for the turf replacement which is being done. Now resurfacing the track and tennis courts is necessary and it should be another 10 years before they need to look at full replacements;

- Was given information by Rob Kakoczki of Plante Moran Cresa on the company recommended for moving furniture out of Owen as work progresses, storing the furniture in on-site storage containers, and then moving back into the building once the construction is completed in the summer of 2022. He said this assistance is a necessity due to the tight timelines before and after construction at Owen. There were four bids and low bidder at \$47,717.50 was Rose Moving and Storage of Belleville who is recommended. Bond money is being used for the project. The board will vote on this contract at the next meeting;

- Was given information by Kakoczki on the asbestos abatement services for the Owen project, which includes flooring and pipe insulation. The apparent low bidder of two is Global Green Services at \$133,874.50 total cost. This cost also is in the bond budget and the contract will be voted on by the board at the next meeting;

- Approved the ECA@EMU Cooperative Agreement that extends the district’s partnership with Eastern Michigan University through the 2025-26 school year. This extension allows the district to send 25 more students in each grade level, which Kudlak said is triple what the district had before. Kudlak said with the first agreement, the district sent EMU the

complete foundation allowance for each student and with this agreement it will be less. The agreement adds giving the superintendent the ability to negotiate and sign future extensions of this agreement without board approval;

- Discussed the four candidates running for one seat on the board of directors in Region 8 of the Michigan Association of School Boards, which the board will be expected to vote on at its next meeting;

- Approved the second reading and final approval of three proposed policy changes presented by Dionne Falconer at the last meeting. She said the policy committee recommended not adopting two more policies, #3409 Face Mask Requirement or #3119 Experimental or Pilot Programs, because neither one is necessary as a

(continued on page 15)

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More Letters

Sumpter Treasurer's response to tax question

In response to a recent inquiry about senior citizen property taxes from the Dec. 30,

2021 and Jan. 6, 2022 letters to the editor.
Dear Sumpter Township Residents:
Thank you for expressing your concerns and asking property tax questions. The treasurer's office uses a printing company to send out our tax bills and it has been that way for years. The Winter 2021 bill was sent out on Dec. 1, 2021, like all past years. We apologize if you did not receive your bill in a timely fashion. Due to the COVID

pandemic the mail was adversely affected causing a trickled-down effect. These issues are beyond our control.

There were also questions about why senior citizens have to pay school taxes despite not having children in schools. Michigan residents voted to pay for continuing education for the next generations to provide financial stability to pursue a quality education.

Michigan residents are required to pay taxation through fees to Wayne County, Wayne County Community College, the DIA, and the Detroit Zoo. The Sumpter Township Treasurer's office will continue to provide information and resources at your request.

Below is a communication from the Wayne County Treasurer's Office for those that own and occupy a home in Wayne County. Please review and contact the assessor's office to request homestead credit information.

Who is exempt from paying school taxes in Michigan?

Pursuant to MCL 211.7cc, **eligible homeowners** are exempt from paying 18 mills of school operating taxes. To be eligible, the homeowner must both own and occupy his/her principal residence on May 1 each year. Your local assessor's office has forms and can assist taxpayers with questions about this exemption.

If you need assistance, there are a few resources that are able to assist in paying property taxes if you are poverty-stricken and unable to pay. We would suggest looking into these programs or contacting our office for assistance. We are always willing to help our residents and do not

wish to see anyone unable to pay their taxes and face possible foreclosure. Our job is to help the community and the residents and we are fully committed to that.

Our office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. to assist and serve. Thank you for your support and continued care of our community!

Also, please rest assured there is no misuse of tax dollars coming from our office!

The Sumpter Township Treasurer's Office
Treasurer Vincent Warren

BHS lists football players who have signed for college scholarships

Belleville High School Athletic Director Joe Brodie offers congratulations to the BHS Tiger football players who have signed to be pursuing their athletic careers with scholarships next year:

- Cameron Dyson - Howard
- DeShaun Lee - Iowa
- Markus Murrell - Bluffton
- Aaron Alexander - UMASS
- Jeremiah Caldwell - Louisville
- Dylan Martin - Bluffton
- Cameron Moore - Albion
- Jashawn Greene - Independence
- Charles Wilson - Grand Valley
- Ronzie Randle - Concordia
- JaKobe Watkins - SE Missouri St.

Birthdays

Feb. 17 – Melanie O'Neil, Gabe Rehan-Bonior
Feb. 18 – Scott Graham
Feb. 20 – Bob Stoner
Feb. 21 – Kelly Zahn
Feb. 22 – Stephanie Smith, Chris Warren
Feb. 24 – Bea Herring

Do you have a birthday soon? Does someone you know have a birthday? Let us know and we will print the name as soon as possible. For more information, call (734) 699-9020.

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– Steven Wright



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Sumpter Twp.

(continued from page 3)

for the three of them to put their heads together, but there has been no movement on it and it's only been two weeks. Ban told of a program at Eastern Michigan University that has students working in museums for credit. Ban also said this is a bad year for roads and besides plowing the roads need gravel.

At the beginning of the workshop before the regular meeting, Finance Director Scott Holtz gave an overview of the budget. A public hearing is set for the Feb. 22 meeting.

BHS at-home games

• **Thursday, Feb. 17:** Boys Swim/Dive vs. Ida, 6 p.m.; Girls & Boys Bowling vs. Franklin at Lodge Lanes, 3 p.m.

• **Friday, Feb. 18:** Girls JV Basketball vs. Stevenson, 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity Basketball vs. Stephenson, 7 p.m. (senior player recognition night)

• **Tuesday, Feb. 22:** Boys Freshman Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial, 4 p.m.; Boys JV Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial, 5:30 p.m.; Boys Varsity Basketball vs. Wayne Memorial, 7 p.m.

Diane Kiessel
Belleville High School Athletic Secretary

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

On March 2nd, 2022, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing** and Storage, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2010	NISSAN	4D	1N4AL2AP7AN413725	21-11564A
2005	CHEVROLET	SW	3GNFK16Z85G254694	21-12718
2014	CHEVROLET	4D	1G11X5SL0EU163843	21-13105C
2001	CADILLAC	4D	1G6KD54Y21U274551	21-13188
2005	CADILLAC	4D	1G6DW677250228789	21-13457
2003	FORD	SW	1FMZU73K13ZA81183	21-11535
1998	FORD	4D	1FAFP13P1WW135648	21-13105
1996	TOYOTA	4D	1NXBB02E1TZ460174	22-784
2005	JEEP	SW	1J4GL48K25W710955	22-1065A

At 11:30am, the auction will move to **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles, are offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2004	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1ZU64854F165391	21-10417
2009	CHEVROLET	SW	1GNER23D99S114125	21-12284A
2012	FORD	4D	1FAHP3H29CL354453	21-12284C
2008	CHRYSLER	SW	2D8HN54P08R763602	21-12181
2011	BUICK	4D	W04GP5ECXB1110457	21-13073
1996	INFINITI	4D	JNKAY21D8TM300472	21-13504A
2010	FORD	4D	1FAHP3FN4AW174175	22-65A
2005	FORD	4D	1FAFP34N25W289101	22-328
2011	JEEP	4D	1J4NT1GA9BD260453	22-442
2004	CHEVROLET	2D	1G1JF12F247161658	22-798
2007	CHEVROLET	PU	1GCEC14C67E568659	22-973A
2000	DODGE	TK	3B7KF26ZXYM200630	22-871
2005	PONTIAC	SW	3G7DA03E25S527171	21-13380
2010	CHRYSLER	SW	2A4RR6DX9AR149595	22-122
2006	FORD	SW	1FMYU04106KA37889	21-13664
1998	VALU	TL	E348250	22-973B

All vehicles are sold in "as is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright MMC, Van Buren Township Clerk,
Published: February 17th, 2022

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **March 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held in person at Van Buren Township Hall, located at **46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111**, in the Board Room. **Members of the public may additionally participate in the meeting electronically** per guidance provided by the Wayne County Local Public Health Department for meetings of governmental bodies held under public act 228 of 2020, effective January 1, 2022. Instructions for attending the meeting electronically are provided in this notice. The Planning Commission will consider the following request:

Case 21-043 A request by applicant Frank Martin, AIA on behalf of owner APVB, LLC seeks to construct a 11' x 14' "To Go" booth for online and pickup orders for the Applebee's Restaurant. The 1.3-acre site is located at 10526 Belleville Road (parcel ID number 83 064 99 0003 715) and is zoned C-2 – Extensive Highway Business District.

Any drive-Thru Facility (accessory to any principal use) is a special land use in the C-2 (Extensive Highway Business District) Zoning District. The proposed Special Land Use requires a public hearing. This hearing is being held in accordance with Article 12, Chapter 3 of the Zoning Ordinance (Administrative Procedures - Special Land Use Review).

Members of the public may access the agenda materials via the Township website – www.vanburen-mi.org beginning **March 4, 2022**. On the meeting website, members of the public will also gain access to **means of participating in the electronic meeting. On the agenda for the meeting**, a unique Zoom weblink and dial-in phone number with a meeting ID for meeting videoconference or teleconference access will be provided. The meeting will be available to view live on the Van Buren Township YouTube Channel which can be reached from the live meeting link located on the Van Buren Township website home page (www.vanburen-mi.org). Closed captioning will be available after YouTube fully renders meeting video.

A complete **procedure for public comment by electronic means** is provided on a guide which is accessible on the Van Buren Township website (www.vanburen-mi.org). Participants may also choose to submit written comments that will be read into record during public comment by the Chairperson. Submit any written comments or questions about the meeting via e-mail to dpower@vanburen-mi.org.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), any citizen requesting accommodation to attend a meeting, and/or to obtain this notice in alternate formats, please contact the Clerk's Office at 734.699.8900 extension 9205.

Posted: February 15, 2022
Published: February 17, 2022



VBPS

(continued from page 12)

policy. The committee recommended revisions to #2201 Board Powers/General Powers, #4205, Hiring and Background

Checks and #4601 General. She said two of those allow the superintendent to do his job and the other is to follow the law;

- Approved the retirement of McBride teacher Christine Morton after 18 years of service as of Jan. 28;
- Approved the resignations of the

following teachers: Walter Boykin from Owen as of Jan. 21 after five years of service; Lindsey Tregenza of Belleville High School as of Jan. 7 after less than a year of service; and Jessica Hernandez-Lopez of BHS as of Feb. 11, after less than one year of service; and

- Approved the terminations of the following non-instructional staff, who all have less than one year of service: Vandella Hubbard of Student Services as of Jan. 27, Terra Cox of Student Services as of Feb. 1, and Brenda Houghtaling from Transportation as of Feb. 7.

Belleville Area District Library 2021 Wages and Benefits

	Wages	Benefits	Total
ADMINISTRATION:			
Suchy, Mary Jo	\$85,929.64	\$24,683.98	\$110,613.62
Savage, Hilary	\$69,706.43	\$31,403.54	\$101,109.97
McCann, Tara	\$63,058.28	\$29,190.42	\$92,248.70
Greschaw, Amy	\$55,172.09	\$20,403.68	\$75,575.77
Lore, Lindsay	\$36,811.48	\$13,983.28	\$50,794.76
Wloch, Michelle	\$27,907.36	\$13,116.70	\$41,024.06
Johnson, Carol	\$35,392.00	\$6,797.14	\$42,189.14
LIBRARIANS:			
Lewis-Yarbrough, Nakenya	\$46,980.84	\$37,719.08	\$84,699.92
Skinner, Kelly	\$53,914.53	\$18,884.90	\$72,799.43
Dubke, Karen	\$24,882.28	\$2,698.55	\$27,580.83
Spiteri-Zaidel, Theresa	\$23,415.24	\$1,791.26	\$25,206.50
Serafin, Stacia	\$15,699.44	\$1,201.01	\$16,900.45
Corcoran, Crystal	\$12,917.06	\$988.16	\$13,905.22
Richards, Jonathan	\$11,100.58	\$849.20	\$11,949.78
Richardson, Jennifer	\$5,943.16	\$454.66	\$6,397.82
Lasoff-Santos, Marissa	\$3,760.13	\$287.65	\$4,047.78
Green, Debra	\$700.00	\$53.55	\$753.55
Davies, Rachel	\$568.88	\$43.52	\$612.40
ASSISTANTS:			
Douglas, Jackie	\$16,925.08	\$1,294.76	\$18,219.84
Reynolds, Kamron	\$15,976.31	\$1,222.19	\$17,198.50
Grisham, Nicole	\$15,653.16	\$1,197.47	\$16,850.63
Glosser, Caitlin	\$14,105.37	\$1,079.06	\$15,184.43
Moody, Gail	\$12,250.58	\$937.17	\$13,187.75
Lebron, Joe	\$790.86	\$60.50	\$851.36
Green-Husted, Jessamy	\$157.13	\$12.02	\$169.15
CLERKS:			
Smith, Karrie	\$17,400.64	\$1,331.15	\$18,731.79
Reed, Ronda	\$16,036.70	\$1,226.81	\$17,263.51
Douglas, Noelle	\$13,767.24	\$1,053.19	\$14,820.43
Dayem, Renad	\$13,260.78	\$1,014.45	\$14,275.23
Willson, Lori	\$11,110.76	\$849.98	\$11,960.74
Foley, Tatiyana	\$9,618.65	\$735.83	\$10,354.48
Yates, Grace	\$8,628.78	\$660.10	\$9,288.88
Murphy, Lakeisha	\$8,103.58	\$619.92	\$8,723.50
Garascia, Judy	\$8,043.75	\$615.34	\$8,659.09
MacDonnell, Kiri	\$7,904.33	\$604.68	\$8,509.01
Valicenti, Liz	\$7,641.55	\$584.58	\$8,226.13
Carr, Mary	\$5,607.56	\$428.98	\$6,036.54
Drewyor, Jensen	\$4,918.33	\$376.28	\$5,294.61
O'Brien, Amy	\$4,059.00	\$310.46	\$4,369.46
Pickeral, Nicole	\$2,583.00	\$197.60	\$2,780.60
Griffin, James	\$2,547.00	\$194.84	\$2,741.84
Najduk, Lori	\$297.00	\$22.72	\$319.72
STUDENT ASSISTANTS:			
Powers, Cecilia	\$1,968.60	\$150.59	\$2,119.19
Plummer, Kennedy	\$1,034.96	\$79.18	\$1,114.14
Amakeme, Daniel	\$193.00	\$14.77	\$207.77
COMPUTER TECH:			
Kelley, George	\$52,367.20	\$18,671.79	\$71,038.99
FACILITIES:			
Prince, Jason	\$22,791.14	\$6,983.43	\$29,774.57
Miller, Bob	\$3,632.90	\$277.92	\$3,910.82
Decker, Nancy	\$3,326.00	\$254.44	\$3,580.44
		2020 Total	\$985,125.67
		2021 Total	\$1,124,172.84
			+\$139,047.17

2021 employee total wages & benefits had approximately a 14.1% increase since 2020.

Compiled by Diane Madigan.



City of Belleville Public Notice



CITY OF BELLEVILLE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

**The Belleville City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on
Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 7:30 P.M.**

**The purpose of the public hearing is for public input
pertaining to a proposed ordinance that would permit the
operation of Golf Carts on some city streets in Belleville.**

**The Public Hearing will take place at the Municipal Building,
6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111.**

**Briana Hootman
City Clerk**

Publish: January 27, 2022, February 3, 2022, February 10, 2022 and February 17, 2022.

Keystone Charter Academy Salaries as of January 2022

School General			
Drain, Jorvonna	\$86,000.10	Drain, Sarah	\$10.00 per hour
Steeb, Jamie	\$74,500.61	Mccloskey, Rebecca	\$10.00 per hour
Mallari, Robyn	\$68,568.66	Jackson, Kimberly	\$10.20 per hour
Layton, Amanda	\$63,322.48	Shariq, Maryam	\$11.25 per hour
Leonard, Tameka	\$63,119.48	Mitchell, Theresa	\$14.43 per hour
Chuang, Cindy	\$53,845.59	Heringhausen, Lisa	\$14.63 per hour
Ancrile, Ashley	\$52,993.00	Campbell, Sandra	\$14.83 per hour
Gordon, Jarayl	\$52,993.00	Bradley, Kimberly	\$15.28 per hour
Hegna, Julianne	\$52,993.00	Davies, Stephanie	\$16.93 per hour
Hutcherson, Nakeisha	\$52,993.00	Boucher, Sarah	\$17.50 per hour
Patton, Diane	\$52,993.00	Bradley, Kimberly	\$17.50 per hour
Shroff, Falak	\$52,993.00	Campbell, Sandra	\$17.50 per hour
Turner, Teri	\$52,993.00	Girbach, Virginia	\$17.50 per hour
Zeuty, Eric	\$50,536.94	Heringhausen, Lisa	\$17.50 per hour
August, Sam	\$50,120.00	Isaacs, Jeanne	\$17.50 per hour
Kaminski, Tracy	\$49,738.42	Jackson, Kimberly	\$17.50 per hour
Borowiak, Kari	\$49,493.00	Mcquillin, Tricia	\$17.50 per hour
Cheng, Stephen	\$49,493.00	Nardelli, Kaylah	\$17.50 per hour
Corbin, Jena	\$49,493.00	Nichols, Geneva	\$17.50 per hour
Gibson, Jessica	\$49,493.00	Polan, Susan	\$17.50 per hour
Jeng, Amy	\$49,493.00	Robinson, Amanda	\$17.50 per hour
Jordan, Christina	\$49,493.00	Thornberry, Angela	\$17.50 per hour
Karpinski, Emma	\$49,493.00	Walters, Johanne	\$17.50 per hour
Mason, Sarah	\$49,493.00	Mitchell, Theresa	\$17.83 per hour
Reaume, Megan	\$49,493.00	School Intervention Services	
Roberts, Alexandra	\$49,493.00	Reed, Stacey	\$70,597.92
Terrell-Fletcher, Monique	\$49,493.00	Leonard, Tameka	\$63,119.48
Davidson, Crystal	\$48,015.00	Conti, Cynthia	\$56,450.16
Joye, Danielle	\$48,015.00	Lumbardo, Andria	\$55,609.64
Sinclair, Katherine	\$48,015.00	Poole, Ellen	\$52,993.00
Brewer, Ashley	\$46,620.00	Calcaterra, Amelia	\$44,703.37
Cryder, Josie	\$46,620.00	Horner, Jennifer	\$44,380.15
Felsburg, Kristin	\$46,620.00	Demolen, Jennifer	\$18.00 per hour
Walczak, Jessica	\$46,620.00	School Special Education	
Barbee, Skyler	\$44,515.00	Zamiela, Lindsey	\$59,000.04
Hess, Austin	\$44,515.00	Missant, Sarah	\$44,515.00
Holowicki, Florentina	\$44,515.00	Jackson, Kimberly	\$14.25 per hour
Ramirez, Stacey	\$43,000.05	Isaacs, Jeanne	\$15.42 per hour
Edwards, Angela	\$39,744.45		

Compiled by Diane Madigan.

Sumpter Twp. Planners recommend zoning changes on MJ grows

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Sumpter Township Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the township board zoning amendments having to do with placement of marijuana grows. This was at its Feb. 10 meeting, the first in-person commission meeting held in about a year and a half.

The Feb. 10 meeting was just 20 minutes long, but discussions on the amendments had been held at two previous meetings and a public hearing with no public comment was held Dec. 9.

Township Attorney Rob Young spoke at length at the Dec. 9 meeting, explaining the background of the amendments that provide that CareGivers and those wishing to grow commercially may do so in Industrial zoned districts in the township.

Young said a recent Michigan Supreme Court decision said that communities can legitimately regulate locations of CareGiver operations through zoning ordinances.

The township board directed the planning commission to review the issue and make appropriate recommendations to the board to limit areas where these types of operations could locate. This would govern only new facilities, not those currently under operation.

CareGivers still may grow medical marijuana at their homes.

At the Dec. 9 meeting, Trustee Matthew Oddy, who sits on the planning commission and chaired that meeting in absence of chairperson Jane Stalmack, asked Young to fine-tune three of the provisions in the proposed amendments. The board voted unanimously to have Young make the changes and bring them back for consideration at an upcoming meeting.

After the Feb. 8 vote the recommendation to approve the amendments was sent to the

board and was expected to be placed on the Feb. 22 board agenda for consideration.

In other business at the Feb. 10 meeting, the commission:

- Heard Oddy say the planning commission probably will be heavily involved in the proposed bike/pedestrian path for the township. He said the board

passed a resolution asking Wayne County to explore the \$6.5 million project. He said the township can pull out at any time. Oddy said there probably will be a public hearing and ways to comment on the proposal. He said it is 13.5 miles of trails proposed, one starting in the City of Belleville and heading south on Sumpter

Road to Arkona, where it would travel east into Crosswinds Marsh. The other trail would start at the Lower Huron Metropark and run along Bemis Road to Rawsonville Road. He said these trails would connect to the Iron Belle Trail in the Metropark and City of Belleville. He said it has to be 10'

(continued on page 15)

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on FEBRUARY 26, 2022 at 12:00 p.m., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc. N810, O715 & S962, Terry Booth; K660, Brandon Perry; L508, Katrina Bryant; I419 & J616, Cornell Fox; O710, Kelly Boursaw; I418, Amenghasiyom Usenvbuwa; Q904, Jessica Travers; Q905, Tasha Davis; I425, Belleville Cougars; P751, Douglas Traskos; M569, Dana Bouknight; T981, Chandler Cuts and Snow; S954, Dion Dooley; P759, James Diamond; E215 & D155, Joyce Price; L500 & L501, Lisa Clark, H377 Brian Mytych.

Publish: February 10 and 17, 2022

WANTED

H & W TOP DOLLAR \$

Cash For Salvage & Scrap Vehicles.
7 Days. Free Towing.
Licensed & Insured.
(734) 223-5581
(517) 605-6388

WANTED – ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS for the homeless. Please drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive. (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED – SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

CASH FOR YOUR CAR TODAY. Must be in good condition & drivable. Don't trade it, sell it to me. (734) 695-0819 02/24

FOR SALE

SEASONED FIREWOOD. \$90/face cord. Free local delivery with purchase of three face cords. All oak, maple hardwood. Terry (313) 300-3344 02/17

AUSSIEDOODLES. 1 boy & 1 girl available now. 6 & 8 week shots done & parents are health tested. (734) 796-3951 03/03

BUFFALO NICKELS. 1913 thru 1938. A good mix of readable dates, \$1/ea. Dave's Treasure Trove, 668 E. Huron River Drive, Tues-Sat. 12pm-5pm. 03/03

VEHICLE FOR SALE

2012 FOCUS SE 4-door. Full power & air, automatic transmission. 97K actual miles. Car fax shows \$7,700 value. Immaculate inside & out. (734) 695-0819 02/24

Notice to Advertisers:

The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



SERVICES

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Painting, Drywall, Carpentry,
Electrical, Plumbing,
Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath.
Serving Belleville Since
1995. Call Aaron Schultz
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PLUMBING • SEWER DRAINS • HANDYMAN

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Local To The
Belleville Area. Call
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CAREER IN REAL ESTATE?**
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Training provided for New
Agents. Call 734-697-1800
PROFESSIONALS to schedule an appointment.

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part-time workers for a municipal
building in Canton. Pleasant work
environment with very flexible
hours available: Monday-Thursday
9pm-midnight, Friday - 6pm-9pm,
Saturday & Sunday - 5pm-8pm.
\$16-\$18 per hour. Email for more
details at rdunn08@yahoo.com
& tell me about yourself, work
experience, etc.**

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money."
– Alexis de Tocqueville

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**STORM DAMAGE
& WINTER DISCOUNTS!**
50% DISCOUNT IF YOU KEEP WOOD/BRUSH!

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- Free Estimates
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- Stump Removal • Bucket Service

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SERVICE BY
PROFESSIONALS**

Insured & Senior Discounts

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Sumpter Plan

(continued from page 16)

wide with 2' clearances on both sides;

- Heard Stalmack say she received a copy of the Sumpter Road Corridor Plan

from Van Buren Township and will send copies to all the commissioners. Van Buren Township has started its 42-day comment period on the zoning ordinance amendment for property along Sumpter Road; and

- Heard Commissioner Mary Sherwood

ask if the upgrades and new homes in the trailer parks will involve the planning commission. John Honey said a lot of work is being done in Holiday Woods and Holiday West, along with replacement of units in Rawsonville Woods. Sherwood said she believes there will be 2,000 to 3,000 more residents in the township.

Oddy said he would like to see pressurized sewers to service the township, but that would take another bond.

**One Call Does It All . . .
... At the Independent
699-9020**

City of Belleville Public Notice

JOB POSTING

City of Belleville ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK



The City of Belleville is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Administrative Clerk in the Accounting Office. Successful candidate will have working knowledge of payroll processing, employee benefits coordination, building permit application / processing, excellent customer service skills, experience with general office work including proficiency in Microsoft Office and the ability to communicate effectively, verbally and in writing. BS&A software experience a plus. Duties will also including public works administration.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid Michigan Driver's License.

Salary and benefits as per Union contract which is available on our website at www.belleville.mi.us.

A background investigation may be required as a condition of employment.

Please apply in person or submit resume with application to City Clerk Treasurer at clerk@belleville.mi.us or 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111. The City of Belleville is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices.

Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

Briana Hootman
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: February 17, 2022

City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville PUBLIC NOTICE MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING



The City of Belleville Board of Review will be held on the following dates:

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022
TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022

Hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8th. A second meeting will be on Tuesday March 15th from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
MEETINGS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Please call (734) 697-9323 ext. 7016 to set up an appointment.

The meetings will be held in the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, Belleville. The purpose will be to review the assessment roll and hear any objections. Resident and non-resident taxpayers are permitted to file protests in writing without personal appearance; letters must be received by 6 pm on March 15, 2022.

Briana Hootman
City Clerk/Treasurer
Publish: February 10, 2022
February 17, 2022
February 24, 2022
March 3, 2022

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR GATEWAY SIGNAGE PROJECT

The Charter Township of Van Buren, will receive sealed bids for the construction and installation of Township gateway signage at the Office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, MI 48111 until Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 1:30 p.m., local time. No Bids will be received after that time.

Bid documents will be available on the Township website and at the Office of the Township Clerk. Bids will be accepted only on provided forms. Bids must be sealed in an envelope marked "GATEWAY SIGNAGE PROJECT" and submitted to the office of the Township Clerk. Bids will be publicly opened at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

The Charter Township of Van Buren reserves the right to waive any discrepancies or irregularities in the bid. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and is not required to accept the low bid. Bidders should direct questions and correspondence to Elizabeth Renaud, Director of Community Services, at erenaud@vanburen-mi.org.

Published: 2-17-22

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BID INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARK SIGNAGE PROJECT PHASE II

The Charter Township of Van Buren, will receive sealed bids for the construction and installation of park signs within the Township's established park system at the Office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, MI 48111 until Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 1:00 p.m., local time. No Bids will be received after that time.

Bid documents will be available on the Township website and at the Office of the Township Clerk. Bids will be accepted only on provided forms. Bids must be sealed in an envelope marked "PARK SIGNAGE PROJECT PHASE II" and submitted to the office of the Township Clerk. Bids will be publicly opened at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

The Charter Township of Van Buren reserves the right to waive any discrepancies or irregularities in the bid. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and is not required to accept the low bid. Bidders should direct questions and correspondence to Elizabeth Renaud, Director of Community Services, at erenaud@vanburen-mi.org.

Published: 2-17-22

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 252 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police last week including the following.

Sunday, Feb. 6:

- 0013 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0249 – traffic offense, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
- 0442 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Woodbury
- 0651 – domestic, Arthur St.
- 0701 – assist fire dept., Westlake Cir.
- 0935 – welfare check, Water’s Edge
- 1002 – welfare check, N. Bellridge Dr.
- 1118 – welfare check, Briarwood Ct.
- 1242 – family trouble, Ladonna Ln.
- 1256 – larceny from auto, S. Bellridge Dr.
- 1310 – welfare check, Pond Ridge Dr.
- 1358 – welfare check, E. Huron River Dr.
- 1417 – suspicious person/vehicle, Brookside Dr.
- 1503 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
- 1522 – intrusion alarm, Florence Ln.
- 1522 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.
- 1841 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
- 1904 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1906 – Meijer property check, Belleville Rd.
- 1907 – animal complaint, Sheldon Rd./Van Born
- 1923 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
- 1955 – civil matter, Parkwood Dr.

Monday, Feb. 7:

- 0009 – welfare check, Woodbury Dr.
- 0054 – 911 welfare check, E. Adams
- 0156 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
- 0250 – larceny, Maple Dr.
- 0658 – domestic, Thornwood Dr.
- 0701 – juvenile complaint, Maple Dr.
- 0740 – vehicle lock out, S. Woodbury Dr.
- 0908 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
- 0923 – harassment call, Richard Run Dr.
- 1130 – suicidal person, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1139 – vehicle lock out, Belleville Rd.
- 1224 – fraud, W. Huron River Dr.
- 1300 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sheldon Rd. / Van Born Rd.
- 1317 – overdose, Ivy
- 1347 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
- 1401 – trespassing, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1421 – suspicious person/vehicle, Quirk Rd.
- 1440 – welfare check, Brookside Dr.
- 1502 – personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd. / Ecorse Rd.

- 1555 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
- 1854 – assist citizen, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1853 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd./E. I-94
- 1914 – disorderly, Gilmore St.
- 1942 – disorderly, Ecorse Rd.

Tuesday, Feb. 8:

- 0506 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
- 0705 – suspicious person/vehicle, Van Buren/Tyler
- 0726 – trespassing, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0803 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
- 0905 – property check, Sylvia Dr.
- 0933 – domestic, Gilmore St.
- 1018 – intrusion alarm, N. Sunset Ln.
- 1056 – civil matter, Brookview Dr.
- 1224 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Woodbury
- 1252 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
- 1309 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
- 1344 – warrant arrest, Filmore St.
- 1430 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
- 1458 – threat, Belleville Rd.
- 1500 – suicidal person, Union St.
- 1502 – suspicious person/vehicle, Country Walk Blvd.
- 1516 – animal complaint, Denton Cemetery
- 1545 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.
- 1558 – mental subject, Denton Rd.
- 1653 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.
- 1657 – suicidal person, Ecorse Rd.
- 1703 – welfare check, Marlowe Ave.
- 1753 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / Belleville Rd.
- 1758 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / Belleville Rd.
- 1834 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
- 1934 – assault & battery, Pine Dr.
- 1941 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 2030 – juvenile complaint, Van Buren St.
- 2138 – property damage accident, Tyler/Sage Cir.
- 2139 – property damage accident, Tyler/Sage Cir.
- 2222 – shooting, Vernon St.

Wednesday, Feb. 9:

- 0002 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
- 0144 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr.
- 0224 – assist other dept., Bemis Rd./Martinsville
- 0738 – suspicious person/vehicle, Country Walk
- 0752 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
- 0915 – civil matter, Ecorse Rd.
- 0920 – assist fire dept., Martinsville Rd.
- 1120 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville/Tyler
- 1124 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Denton Rd.
- 1141 – welfare check, Belleville Rd.
- 1248 – welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
- 1349 – motorist assist, Ecorse/I-275
- 1354 – animal complaint, Oak In.
- 1421 – misc. complaint, Village Center Dr.
- 1459 – private property impound, Sylvia Dr.
- 1458 – road hazard, Haggerty/S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1612 – welfare check, Van Buren St.
- 1652 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd./Ecorse Rd.
- 1720 – suspicious person/vehicle, Kent Ln.
- 1725 – breaking & entering, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 2021 – Menards property check, Belleville Rd.
- 2058 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
- 2116 – assist other dept., Maple Dr.
- 2300 – road hazard, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.

Thursday, Feb. 10:

- 0143 – breaking & entering, Denton Rd.
- 0202 – suspicious person/vehicle, Michigan Ave.
- 0232 – welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0612 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr. / Elwell Rd.
- 0629 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Sunrise Ln.
- 0700 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
- 0712 – intrusion alarm, Yost Rd.
- 0814 – welfare check, Denton Rd.
- 0820 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
- 0828 – motorist assist, Ecorse Rd./Haggerty Rd.
- 0922 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
- 1011 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
- 1049 – family trouble, S. Woodbury Dr.
- 1103 – suspicious person/vehicle, Thornwood Dr.
- 1134 – suspicious person/vehicle, Village Green
- 1257 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
- 1324 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
- 1403 – abandoned auto, Rock Creek Dr.
- 1419 – property damage accident, Belleville/Quirk
- 1449 – malicious destruction of property, S. Woodbury Dr.

- 1529 – suspicious person/vehicle, Village Green
- 1551 – malicious destruction of property, Lighthouse
- 1618 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
- 1820 – breaking & entering, E. Archwood Dr.
- 1906 – Meijer property check, Belleville Rd.
- 1952 – felony assault, Ecorse Rd.
- 2039 – misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.
- 2102 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
- 2224 – civil matter, Denton Rd.

Friday, Feb. 11:

- 0802 – harassment call, Denton Rd.
- 0811 – shooting, Buchanan St.
- 0849 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lenmoore Ave.
- 0920 – domestic, Rolan Meadows Dr.
- 1001 – welfare check, Village Green Ln.
- 1021 – animal complaint, Riggs Rd.
- 1030 – civil matter, Belleville Rd.
- 1031 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
- 1135 – fraud, Village Green Ln.
- 1145 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. Bellridge Dr.

- 1228 – animal complaint, McBride
- 1348 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.
- 1420 – warrant arrest, Alden Ave.
- 1451 – larceny from auto, Birch Dr.
- 1619 – civil matter, Fairbanks St.
- 1639 – shooting, Westlake
- 1708 – intrusion alarm, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1809 – vehicle lockout, Belleville Rd.
- 1901 – shooting, W. Huron River Dr.
- 1924 – suicidal person, Belleville Rd.
- 1933 – welfare check, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 2024 – property damage accident, Sheldon/Ecorse
- 2106 – suicidal person, Parkwood Dr.
- 2206 – suicidal person, Belleville Rd.
- 2240 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hanover Dr.
- 2311 – noise complaint, McBride Ave.
- 2340 – noise complaint, State St.

Saturday, Feb. 12:

- 0104 – family trouble, W. Adams
- 0120 – noise complaint, Water’s Edge Ln.
- 0130 – motorist assist, Morton Taylor Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.

- 0221 – family trouble, Beckley Rd.
- 0256 – hospice death, Van Buren St.
- 0258 – assault & battery, Ayres Ave.
- 0359 – family trouble, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
- 0654 – domestic, Denton Rd.
- 0723 – assist other dept., Menlo Park Dr.
- 0801 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0817 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0835 – larceny from auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0906 – neighbor trouble, Riggs Rd.
- 1018 – mental subject, Elwell Rd.
- 1100 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd.
- 1134 – 911 welfare check, Fret Rd.
- 1145 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
- 1200 – lost property/child, Belleville Rd.
- 1211 – property damage accident, Edwards Rd. / Beverly Rd.

- 1342 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
- 1521 – harassment call, Denton Rd.
- 1528 – welfare check, Borgman
- 1534 – property damage accident, Riggs/Haggerty
- 1612 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
- 1626 – suspicious person/vehicle, Stamford Rd.
- 1723 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
- 1756 – noise complaint, Outer Dr.
- 1804 – disorderly, Brandi Dr.
- 1917 – family trouble, McKinley St.
- 2018 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
- 2105 – assist other dept., Denton Rd.
- 2203 – threat, Belleville Rd.
- 2306 – intrusion alarm, Belleville Rd.
- 2259 – welfare check, Stamford Rd.
- 2331 – animal complaint, Marina Dr.
- 2333 – intrusion alarm, Haggerty Rd.
- 2350 – threat, Parkwood Dr.

There also are 43 traffic stops on this week’s log, including one at the I-94 rest stop.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 6:

- 0158 – traffic stop, Main St./First St.
- 0250 – intrusion alarm, Owen St.
- 1649 – family trouble, Carmell St.
- 1812 – assault & battery, Loza Ln.
- 1959 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
- 2105 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Loza Ln.

Monday, Feb. 7:

- 0106 – traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr. / Harbour Pointe Dr.
- 0600 – traffic stop, Main St.
- 0613 – traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave.
- 0919 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
- 1142 – traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave.
- 1208 – traffic stop, Second St./Main St.
- 1226 – traffic stop, Main St./N. Liberty St.
- 1321 – juvenile complaint, Owen St.
- 1535 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sumpter Rd.
- 1554 – fraud, W. Columbia Ave.
- 1603 – misc. complaint, Sumpter Rd.
- 1825 – traffic stop, Main St.
- 1840 – traffic stop, Main St.
- 2051 – family trouble, Carmell St.

Tuesday, Feb. 8:

- 0347 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
- 1004 – traffic stop, Main St./Fifth St.
- 1252 – misc. complaint, Sumpter Rd.
- 1416 – assist citizen, Water Works
- 1644 – traffic stop, W. Huron River Dr.
- 1755 – traffic stop, E. Huron River/Ormond
- 1839 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr.
- 2228 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.

Wednesday, Feb. 9:

- 0101 – suicidal person, High St.
- 0918 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Liberty St.
- 1639 – hospice death, E. Thornhill Ct.
- 1854 – misc. complaint, W. Columbia Ave.

Thursday, Feb. 10:

- 1658 – larceny, Belle Villa Blvd.
- 1902 – welfare check, Henry St.
- 2317 – traffic stop, South St./E. Wabash Ave.

Friday, Feb. 11:

- 0922 – traffic stop, High St.
- 1010 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
- 1036 – traffic offense, Main St./Third St.
- 1101 – motorist assist, Main St./Third St.
- 1143 – harassment call, S. Industrial Park Dr.
- 1551 – traffic stop, High St./Main St.
- 1633 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.

- 1703 – traffic offense, Belleville/Quirk
 - 1731 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
 - 1809 – property damage accident, Madelon St. / E. Columbia Ave.
 - 1816 – juvenile complaint, Carmell St.
 - 2028 – traffic stop, E. Huron River Dr./Loza Ln.
 - 2031 – assist motorist, W. Columbia Ave./Church
 - 2106 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
 - 2211 – traffic stop, Main St./Third St.
- Saturday, Feb. 12:**
- 0413 – traffic stop, Main St./High St.
 - 0720 – suicidal person, Menlo Park Dr.
 - 1607 – juvenile complaint, Menlo Park
 - 2248 – traffic stop, Madelon St./E. Columbia Ave.
 - 2306 – traffic stop, Main St./Second St.
- There are 28 traffic stops on this week’s log.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 6:

- 0102 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
- 1227 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Willow
- 1235 – fire dept. assist, Oregon St.
- 1255 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico St.
- 1302 – civil matter, Birch Dr.
- 1327 – suspicious circumstance, Carriage Ln.
- 1534 – property damage accident, 44000 bl. Dunn
- 1739 – family trouble, Vermont St.
- 1800 – fire dept. assist, Washington St.
- 1926 – welfare check, Greenmeadow Dr.
- 1934 – 911 hang up, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
- 2141 – follow-up investigation, 44000 bl. Willow
- 2307 – 911 hang up, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
- 2326 – 911 hang up, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.

Monday, Feb. 7:

- 0813 – civil matter, Nevada St.
- 0907 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Martinsville
- 0917 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Willow Rd.
- 1313 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
- 1719 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
- 1834 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
- 2112 – property damage accident, 44000 bl. Clay
- 2145 – fire dept. assist, Florida St.
- 2146 – welfare check, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
- 2227 – fraud complaint, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
- 2303 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

Tuesday, Feb. 8:

- 0751 – death investigation, Greenmeadow Dr.
- 1208 – harassment complaint, 40000 bl. Harris
- 1349 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
- 1422 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1646 – suspicious circumstance, Sherwood/Willis
- 1730 – fire dept. assist, Edgewood Dr.
- 1835 – citizen assist, Carriage Ln.
- 2058 – felony warrant arrest, Sumpter/Wear
- 2309 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.

Wednesday, Feb. 9:

- 0054 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
- 0141 – 911 hang up, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 0158 – fire dept. assist, Magnolia Dr.
- 0228 – family trouble, Carriage Ln.
- 0727 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
- 1117 – welfare check, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
- 1201 – family trouble, New Mexico St.
- 1336 – welfare check, 43000 bl. Willis Rd.
- 1502 – 911 hang up, 27000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
- 1754 – 911 hang up, New Mexico St.
- 2223 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Savage
- 2239 – suspicious circumstance, 17000 bl. Savage

Thursday, Feb. 10:

- 0104 – family trouble, Wayside Dr.
- 0203 – citizen assist, Willis Rd./Rawsonville Rd.
- 0837 – suspicious person, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
- 1024 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
- 1713 – mental health call, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
- 1731 – suspicious circumstance, 46000 bl. Judd
- 1828 – suspicious vehicle, Rawsonville/Willow
- 1931 – juvenile complaint, New Mexico St.
- 2008 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Kozma

Friday, Feb. 11:

- 0416 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1116 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
- 1202 – welfare check, 43000 bl. Willis Rd.
- 1240 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.
- 1321 – 911 hang up, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
- 1429 – welfare check, New Mexico St.
- 1534 – harassment complaint, Arizona St.
- 1859 – alarm, 17000 bl. Odyssey Dr.

(Continued on page 19)

VBT Planners send Sumpter Rd. Corridor Plan on to twp. board

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

After almost two hours of discussion at its Feb. 9 meeting, the Van Buren Township Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the township board the Sumpter Road Corridor Plan.

The 60-page plan was sent on to the township board for the next step in the plan's approval – sending copies to surrounding communities and utilities for the 42-day comment period. When that is over there will be a public hearing.

Planners considered the full draft of the plan for the Sumpter Road corridor from Bemis Road to the city limits of the City of Belleville.

Planning and Economic Development Director Dan Power said the plan is an amendment to the 2020 VBT Master Plan which addresses a vision, future land use,

and mobility recommendations for the corridor.

He said the plan is the culmination of six combined work sessions with either the VBT Planning Commission or the commission's subcommittee, a workshop held in July 2021 and public input from a variety of stakeholders including over 35 written letters and other comments and five one-on-one meetings or calls with township staff.

The plan was presented to the commission by Adam Cook, a Master Plan consultant from McKenna Associates. He presented historical information, a description of existing conditions, a description of public engagement, a vision statement, a draft future land use plan, and a plan for regulating a mixed-use future land use district for Sumpter Road.

The plan also includes a mobility plan, which is the basis for proposed road and non-motorized path recommendations, and a zoning plan which calls for the addition of a Sumpter Road Mixed Use zoning district (SRMUD) and a Sumpter Road Overlay District (SROD) zoning ordinance.

Power said the SRMUD and SROD zoning ordinance amendments will be key tools for plan implementation.

Power said this plan is different than the original plan because they found there was no appetite by the residents to expand services south of Hull Road, so single family homes have been planned in Rural

Residential Patterns.

Cook said once you cross Hull Road, "You're in a different world. An idyllic world and they don't want that built up."

Power said anything they discussed will be spelled out in the zoning ordinance amendments, which will be brought back to the commission in late winter or spring.

Power said during meetings the subcommittee regularly brought back the plan to what the people said they wanted.

"I believe the community will love it," said Commissioner Medina Atchinson who served on the subcommittee, along with Commissioners Jeff Jahr and Callie Barr.

In other business at the Feb. 9 meeting, the commission:

- Welcomed its new member Kamika Garrett. The commission now has the full seven members;

- After a brief discussion asked staff to proceed with development of a zoning text amendment on outdoor dining;

- Recommended the staff proceed with a zoning ordinance text amendment to reduce the minimum floor area requirement in certain residential zoning districts;

- Recommended the staff proceed with a zoning text amendment regarding the categorization of gasoline filling and service stations, and add EV stations to the study; and

- Reviewed a list prepared by Power of the 17 construction projects under way in the township and each project's stage in the process. This is available on the township website. Commissioner Brian Cullin asked about an 18th project, the Clover Development, that was not on the

list. Power apologized and added Clover senior apartments on Belleville Road to the list and said it was an active development.

Noah Richendollar named to Dean's List at Wayne State University

Noah Richendollar of the City of Belleville has been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester at Wayne State University's College of Civil Engineering. He has a current grade point average of 3.7.

Noah is a sophomore at WSU and recently became a member of Theta Tau, a professional engineering fraternity.

He also is a member of the Warrior Racing Team. Warrior Racing is a student organization at WSU composed of both undergraduate and graduate students from diverse disciplines. The team designs, manufactures and markets an open-wheel race car against other universities nationally. The competitions include dynamic and static events to test the team's knowledge of design, manufacturing and marketing of the formula style racecar.

Noah is the son of Ann and Anthony Richendollar.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued from page 18)

Saturday, Feb. 12:

1221 – follow-up investigation, New Mexico St.

1406 – alarm, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.

1721 – alarm, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.

2242 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.

2316 – assist other agency, 22000 bl. Martinsville

Also on this week's log are 145 patrol checks, 58 traffic stops, and four misc. details.

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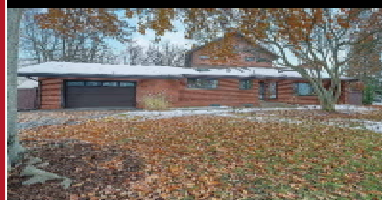
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CORNER WEAR AND HAGGERTY

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1163 ROULO WATER AND SEWER \$45,000

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